

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for forming muffler preforms using sugar as a binder is provided. Continuous glass strands and sugar are added to a preform mold which has the general shape and approximate volume of the internal cavity of the muffler in which the muffler preform is to be inserted. The sugar may be a sugar that has a melting point of 130 °F or greater. The continuous glass strands may be fed into the preform mold by a feeder that separates the strands and entangles the individual fibers. The preform mold is heated to a temperature sufficient to melt or at least partially caramelize the sugar. Once melted, the sugar adheres to the individual glass fibers, causing the individual glass fibers to stick together. The preform mold may be cooled to bind the sugar-coated glass fibers and form a muffler preform formed of continuous glass fibers bound together by sugar.